

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIALCOUNTRY Czechoslovakia

REPORT

TOPIC Observations made in the Ostrava - Piestany - Opava Area

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONT

1954

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 16 December 1954

25X1

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Prior to January 1954, it was learned that a Soviet lieutenant was detached to the Czechoslovakian air unit stationed at Piestany (48°35'N/17°49'E) airfield for the training of jet pilots. Many jet aircraft were allegedly stationed at the field. Only skilled personnel was stationed there. The pilots had received their initial training at the flying schools at Olmuetz (Olomouc) (49°36'N/17°15'E) and Prosnitz (Prostejov) (49°27'N/17°06'E). Of ten applicants who took an aptitude-test at Prosnitz only three were acceptable for training as jet pilots. 1 25X1
2. The area of the airfield southeast of Laehrisch Ostrau (Ostrava) was off limits to civilians. Prior to January 1954, commercial and military aircraft were stationed at the field but no jet aircraft was there. In September 1953, construction workers said that barracks installations were being constructed at the eastern edge of the woods west of the field. Off limits signs were posted around the field which was guarded by sentries of the SNB police. Passengers of commercial aircraft were the only civilians who had permission to enter the field. 2 25X1
3. An airfield was located south of Koenigsberg (Klimkowice) (49°47'N/18°07'E) between Fonovice and Jistebnik. This field has been used by gliders for 4 to 5 years but conventional aircraft also took off and landed there. In September 1953, a flying day was held at the field. In connection with an enlargement at the field, buildings of Fonovice were allegedly to be torn down. One hangar was located at the field and it could be seen from the Koenigsberg-Wagstadt (Bilovec) (49°45'N/18°02'E) road. 3
4. Prior to January 1954 no Soviet soldiers were seen at Laehrisch Ostrau and Troppau (Opava) (49°57'N/17°55'E) and the presence of Soviet personnel there was never mentioned by acquaintances. A Soviet soldier who wore a Czechoslovakian uniform was allegedly attached to each unit.

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1.  Comment. The flying schools at Olomouc and Prostějov were reported previously. The presence of a jet fighter unit at **Piestany** is reported for the first time. According to available information, it is believed that 2 or 3 ground attack regiments are stationed at **Piestany**.
2.  Comment. Hrabuvka airfield, southeast of **Ostrava** was reported previously. According to available information, it is used as commercial airfield and for pre-military training including parachuting, towing of gliders and local flying by single-engine aircraft. The construction of barracks installations at the edge of the woods west of the field was reported previously.
3.  Comment. An airfield south of Křimovice is known from World War II.

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